

# 3,300 POPULATION IN ONTARIO NOW

## SCHOOL CENSUS JUST TAKEN SHOWS MORE RESIDENTS IN ONTARIO

The population of Ontario as indicated by the school census just completed, is thirty-three hundred, larger than has been generally supposed.

H. H. Dearborn has been taking the census the past two weeks. He says there have been many changes over last year. He found six hundred and sixty school children.

The Ontario district is known as No. 8, and takes in a little territory outside of the city limits. It was found that many children were attending the Ontario schools, who do not claim this as their home. These could not be included in the census.

### SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

The Nut Club, an organization of the high school boys, have issued invitations to a dancing party to be held at Wilson hall, December 23rd.

The Carnation club was entertained by Mr. and Mrs. John Wood on Tuesday evening. High honors were won by Mrs. A. F. Tonningsen and Mr. Van Petten.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Gallagher entertained at dinner at the Moore Hotel last evening. Those who were present were Judge and Mrs. Dalton H. Biggs and Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Weese.

Mrs. H. C. Schuppell was a gracious hostess to the Silver Fork club Wednesday afternoon. High honors were won by Mrs. Van Petten. The invited guests were Mrs. Prinzing and Mrs. Bourk.

## CIRCUIT COURT CASE GOES BY DEFAULT

Today was the date set for the taking of testimony at the city hall, in the case of Pearson vs. Worsham et al, in which an effort is being made to foreclose a mechanics lien on some mining property. C. C. Wilson, an attorney of Boise appeared for the plaintiff, but Judge Davis, attorney for the defendants, did not appear. Mr. Walker was the referee. It is said a default judgement will be taken.

### MEDICAN ASSN. MEET

The Idaho-Oregon Medical Assn. met at the Moore Hotel Tuesday evening. The Idaho doctors were not present, and Dr. Hedges of Riverside could not be present. A very interesting evening was spent and several of the members present gave short talks.

### FRUITLAND MAN ILL

William Kessler who has been dangerously ill at his home in Fruitland with pneumonia, is reported a little better today. His son, Dons, and family, are here. Also Lou Kessler from Beaumont.

### COUPLE WED HERE

Miss Bessie Mae Patterson and James A. Walker, both of Malheur, were married by Judge King at his residence, Wednesday evening, Dec. 15th.

### DREAMLAND OFFERING

"Young Romance" in which Edith Tallafiero makes her photodramatic debut, is the attraction at the Dreamland Theatre tomorrow night.

### NOTICE

I take this means on behalf of the entertainment committee of the Older Boys' Convention to thank the people of Ontario for their response and aid in entertaining the boys during the convention.

D. A. Hiles,  
Chairman of Committee

## Christmas Coming

Christmas is comin'! I hear it a-burmin'  
Up thru ther chimney place outer  
ther flue!  
Turkeys are smellin' it; old hens  
are tellin' it;  
Every one's feelin' it plumb  
thru an' thru!  
Rub up ther andirons, keep 'em  
a-shinin';  
Scour up ther pewter an' cop-  
per an' brass;  
Fetch out ther little with porce-  
lain linin'  
An' pick up ther quincies ter  
turn inter wass.  
Look up ther Christmas green,  
hang up ther holly;  
Nail up ther mistletoe over ther  
door.  
Every one's goin' ter perk up an'  
be jolly.  
Just as we allus hev done here-  
fore.

'Cain't no one thinkin' of trouble  
an' sorrow;  
Things that's gone by ain't no  
place in our hearts.  
Christmas is comin' a wech from  
terrorer,  
An' right from this minnit ther  
frolichin' starts!  
—Lurana Sheldon.

## WEDDING BELLS RING IN BURNS

Burns.—On Sunday evening Miss Lillian Krueger and James Richardson were united in marriage at the home of Mrs. Nora Richardson, Rev. A. K. McKee performing the ceremony. The bride is a charming young lady who has resided in this section for several years, and the groom is a prominent young man being employed in the Reed Bros. drug store.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith was the scene of a pretty wedding Wednesday when their daughter Beulah, became the bride of Glenn C. Clemens. The ceremony which was performed at noon by Rev. Dr. E. Benson, was witnessed by 24 guests nearly all relatives of the contracting parties. The young couple was attended by Miss Verda Sturtevant as bridesmaid, and Richard Hayes as best man. Mr. and Mrs. Clemens will make their home north of town a few miles where the groom has a fine farm, and his father has built a fine home.

Miss Bertha Poe of Riverside, and Mr. Lyle T. Dawson, were married Monday evening at the home of the groom's parents in Burns. Rev. Dr. E. Benson performed the ceremony. The couple were attended by Mrs. Susie Simpson as matron of honor and Collin Dawson as best man. The wedding ring used in the ceremony has been in the family for 90 years and belonged to the groom's great grandmother. The china used in serving the luncheon is 60 years old and belonged to the groom's grandmother.

## HARNEY COUNTY CASE DECIDED BY JUDGE

A decree has been handed down by Judge Biggs this week in the case from Harney county of E. B. Hill, et al, vs The American Land & Live-stock Co. It is the outcome of a dispute over the water in Trout creek. The decree established the right of various parties using the water in the stream and provided for the distribution of the water. J. W. McCulloch and P. J. Gallagher represent the defendant.

### CHRISTMAS ROSEBUDS.

Charming Belief of Roumanian Peasants in Coming of the Christ Child.

Every year on Christmas eve, they say, the Christ Child, on his way to Germany, comes through the Roumanian hills to gather rosebuds and to kiss into the hearts of those he cannot carry a love charm which has power to awaken a lasting love in the heart of any one to whom it is presented, provided the gift is made in the open air in solitude before the hour of 10 and ere a word of greeting has been spoken. On the night before Christmas, therefore, the gypsy swains go rosebud hunting, and on Christmas day the chosen maidens who accept lovers' suits wear the buds.

What roses are to holiday Roumanian grapes are to gypsy France. Lovers divide a perfect bunch of them; beggars offer grapes to passersby, expecting in return a coin for each one taken. Similarly in Hungary lovers share a dumpling pie. In Italy a Christmas fagot, if it be the last in the bunch, is a token of affection and is saved to light the wedding fire when given by a maiden to her lover. In Spain there are colored lights and fireworks which lovers watch together. And in Somersetshire, England, where the Christmas thorn grows, it was long the custom for young people to gather underneath a thorn tree to hear the buds burst into bloom.

### SINNOTT SENDS SEEDS

Congressman "Nick" Sinnott has asked the Semi-Weekly Argus to help him place his quote of government seeds in the hands of those who wish to receive them, and will be able to make the best use of them. He will send a supply of vegetable seeds to the Argus office within a few days. Any of our readers desiring a package may have one as long as they last by dropping into our office. If you live out of town write and we will gladly mail you a package.

Congressman Sinnott also informs us that he will retain a small portion of his quote of vegetable and flower seeds at Washington. Any constituent writing to him there for seeds will receive same directly from his office.

## O. A. C. INSTRUCTOR GIVES GOOD LECTURE

The Domestic Science demonstration and lecture by Miss Anna Turley of O. A. C. was attended Thursday afternoon by a number of local ladies. The Woman's club meeting was postponed so the members could attend. Miss Turley took up bread making and fireless cookery and her talk was highly instructive and interesting. She gave a few formulas for yeast making. Miss Turley is an artist along this line and no doubt will have large classes, if she ever returns to Ontario.

### Didn't Like the "New" Christmas.

The story is told of Thackeray that he was invited to a party at a country house where the host determined to make the experiment of keeping Christmas in "new style." Toward the conclusion of the feast, in which nothing common to a Christmas dinner figured, it was found that Thackeray had disappeared. He was discovered in a corner of the mansion regaling himself on beef and plum pudding, which he had bribed one of the servants to bring him from the kitchen table.

### "Jul" Stamps For Christmas.

For some years there has been a Christmas stamp issued by the Denmark government. The Denmark stamp is issued by the postoffice and with the king's head on it and the one word "Jul," which is Danish for Yule. It is issued each year at Christmas for the season, and every penny from its sale goes to help the fight against tuberculosis in Denmark. It costs a farthing and sells by the millions, having almost doubled its sale each year for the past few years.

### "Birthdays Instead of Christmas?"

Perish the thought. Birthdays are birthdays and Christmas is Christmas. How, then, substitute the one for the other?

From the holy birth, a birthday to be sure, but one calling for a general and not an individual celebration, gifts have been given. The first were by the wise men, remember.

If one is happy he instinctively desires to give. We cannot explain why, but we know it is so. And though many may be too unhappy or too self centered there are none so poor that they cannot give, and generously, of that spirit which makes "A Merry Christmas."

If through the year one sees what one believes would be acceptable to his friend, why not buy it, if it can be afforded, and instead of giving it on the birthday keep it for Christmas?

There is real pleasure in all that pertains to the season, even in the shopping. Try to put the spirit of it all into all you buy. That means joining the Spugs, so far as useless giving goes, and receiving from the clerks interest and courtesy.

Gifts, large or small; cards or words, money or love—nothing matters but the spirit, the Christmas spirit.

## The Birds' Plea

Dear kiddies, Christmas will soon be here.  
The happiest time of all the year.  
While you are enjoying your Christmas toys  
And your little hearts filled with Christmas joys,  
Please think of the wee birds out in the snow,  
Where cruel winds whistle and fiercely blow.  
Our home is the air; our roof is the sky;  
When we're nothing to eat we freeze and die.  
Dear kiddies, you live in houses so warm.  
Sheltered from cold and the blinding storm.  
You'll have "merry Christmas" and plenty to eat.  
Oh, please give your little bird friends a treat!  
We're so hungry. Dear little kiddies, please  
Hang us some Christmas out on the trees.  
YOUR LITTLE BIRD FRIENDS.

## BANK INSTALLS NEW MACHINE

The First National bank has just added a remarkable machine to its equipment—a machine that posts ledgers and makes out customers statements. People who are not acquainted with the inside workings of a bank will not fully realize the great advantages of machine work over hand posting to the ledger. The big advantages of using the machine is the saving in time and in the improvement in the appearance and legibility of the ledger sheet.

Heretofore the clerks when posting to the ledger had to first make a list of checks and then a list of deposits, on each account add each list separately and then subtract to get a balance. This is all accomplished in one operation by the new machine.

One of the remarkable features of the machine is that it automatically detects and marks overdrafts with an "O. D." sign. When less the lever is in the "subtract" position.

The machine automatically adds the deposits to the old balance and subtracts the checks as they are listed. The new balance is computed and proved simply by taking a total.

With the new adding-subtracting machine in use the customer's account is balanced daily. Each day the statements are taken out of the binder—put into the machine and checks and deposits listed—a total taken and the balance carried forward ready for the next days posting. Now when a customer wants a statement at any time all the clerk has to do is to go to the ledger and take off the last figures posted which will be a statement of the customers account right up-to-date.

## O. S. L. BRIDGE NOW NEARLY COMPLETED

STEEL STRUCTURE ACROSS THE SNAKE RIVER WILL SOON BE ENTIRELY FINISHED.

The first of January will mark the completion of the new steel railroad bridge across the Snake river just north of Ontario. Construction was started over eighteen months ago, and the steel gang began their work the 27th, of last July. Now the crew has moved and nearly all the building equipment has been removed. The riveting which is going on now will be completed in two weeks. Mr. Kelly has been in charge of the construction work here.

### HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

The class games in basket ball started last night, when the Juniors defeated the Seniors by a score of 28 to 12. Although the game was one sided, a great deal of interest was taken and a good crowd witnessed the game.

Plans are being made for a hard times party to be held at the school house tomorrow evening. A part of the evening will be spent in stringing pop corn for the Municipal Xmas tree.

The Eighth grade will give an entertainment tonight in the high school auditorium. They have been practicing for some time and a good program will be given.

A small admittance fee will be charged and the proceeds used to purchase a piano.

## SHORT COURSE PROGRAM COMPLETED

The Short Course has been held at the city hall according to schedule but County Agriculturist W. W. Howard states that he has been disappointed in the attendance. These lectures are by the best instructors in the state and many farmers in the state go to O. A. C. each year to get instruction that has been brought within reach of the farmers here this week. Today a cattle judging demonstration was held at the Seaward Dairy farm, and tomorrow a hog judging demonstration will be given at the DeFoe ranch, in addition to the regular program scheduled.

### COURT AT VALE MONDAY

An adjourned term of the circuit court will be held at Vale next week, beginning Monday, December 20th. A number of equity cases will likely be heard.

### Christmas Was For Adults Then.

Seventy years ago Christmas was an adult and a home festival. It received all its honor, all its joyousness from the ideas of father, mother and home. It was the golden ring that held all the love and sentiment we associate with those three almost divine words. Sons and daughters might stray to the very ends of the earth, but Christmas brought them home again—in the body if possible, but if not possible then in the sweetest love and memory. If a child had done well it looked forward to the joy of telling it to father and mother at Christmas; if it had done ill it felt sure of pardon and help at Christmas. "Father Christmas" was their own father, and by his side stood the dear, sweet mother, ever ready to persuade and plead for all her children; glad to welcome, glad to forgive, glad to praise; full of sympathy for every joyful and sorrowful condition.—Amelia E. Barr.

### No Santa In Germany.

Santa Claus has no existence in Germany. The gifts are received from Kris Kringle, a corruption of Christ Kindeln, or the infant Christ, "from whom cometh every good and perfect gift." They are placed not upon the tree, but upon the table beneath, to signify that in bestowing upon us his bounties our Saviour has in no way diminished his own glorious beauty. In Germany the Christmas tree is never denuded in the presence of the children. It stands in the main apartment of the establishment from Christmas to New Year's eve and is then privately borne away by the older members of the household.



'Twas the night before Christmas,  
when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even  
a mouse;

The stockings were hung by the  
chimney with care  
In the hopes that St. Nicholas soon  
would be there;

The children were nestled all snug  
in their beds,  
While visions of sugar plums danced  
through their heads.